

ODE TO PEACE,

TRANSLATED

From the Greek (with Additions) in 1782,

BY

A YOUNG GENTLEMAN,

NOW AT

MACCLESFIELD SCHOOL,

WHAT earthly flame of fiercest Ray
Can bear the blazing orb of Day?
Struck by the radiance of thine Eye,
Thus shrink the Sons of Poetry;
Despair suspends thy warbled Praise,
And die away in air the floating Lays.

II.

Yet should some favour'd Bard descry
The hidden stream of Harmony,
(If Goddess from thy fountain flow
Such streams to bless the world below)
Wrapt in poetic trance sublime,
He'll rouse the magic melody of Rhyme.

III.

O! could my heav'n-steer'd bark explore
The windings of that hallow'd shore,
Glad would I seize the sounding Frame
To celebrate thy joyous name;
Glad would I raise my voice to thee,
And hymn thy praise in tuneful extacy.

IV.

IV.

Hark ! hark ! the sound of Wings I hear,
What gales perfume the balmy air ?
I see her courfers from afar
Wheel down to Earth the glowing Car ;
Swift from the regions of the Gods
She comes, she comes to visit Man's abodes.

V.

What thrilling darts of transport fly
From the mild lustre of thine Eye !
Ah ! sweetest heav'nly smiles, that grace
The blooming radiance of thy Face !
The Goddess comes, she bends her Flight
From star-y-crown'd Olympus' awful height,

VI.

Where as about the glorious Source
Of Light the Planets hold their course,
To thee their voices they upraise,
Sounding thy everlasting praise ;
In solemn harmony they join,
And sing, fair Peace, thy influence divine.

VII.

When Discord bids the battle bray,
And through the squadrons mows her way,
Implants with spears the brazen plain,
And triumphs o'er the num'rous slain ;
Peace waves her Wand, Peace curbs the Car,
And damps the impious joys of ruthless War.

VIII.

Now the shouts of Warriors cease,
And Music culls for thee, fair Peace,
Her choicest wreaths ; the hymns resound,
And mirthful Pleasure sports around ;

Discord



Discord a captive falls to thee,
Bound in the golden chain of Harmony.

IX.

What voice seraphic fills mine Ear?
Persuasion, halcyon Queen, is near:
Her balmy dew she pours around,
Fell Faction sickens at the sound:
Sedition drops her haughty Crest,
And all her thousand tongues are lull'd to rest.

X.

Now through the mazy dance they sail,
Their arms flow-floating on the Gale;
In easy state the Graces glide,
And Love with Hebe by his side:
Sweet blush her cheeks with vernal Dies,
And young desire beams trembling from his eyes.

XI.

Let not the Muse crop ev'ry flow'r,
And rifle all her breathing Store
To deck the many-twinkling trains
Of Stars, while not one sweet remains
To crown fair Cynthia's silver light,
The lustre-darting eye of placid night.

XII.

Whither will rapture urge her flight?
Spare, oh! spare my aching sight!
Heav'n's Barriers burst! I see the birth,
The rising fabric of this Earth;
There did'st thou, Child of Meekness, stand,
Pleas'd with the mighty workings of thy Hand.

XIII.

There all-directing Destiny,
Immortal Goddess, gave to thee

To curb the fury of the God,
 And lock the iron Gates of Blood :
 To thee she gave sage Counfel's key,
 And Jove assenting 'stablish'd the decree.

XIV.

Goddeſs, 'tis thine, 'tis thine alone
 On Juſtice' ſhrine to raiſe thy throne ;
 'Tis thine with ever-foſt'ring Care,
 Virtue's great Progeny to rear ;
 Wealth to diffuſe with lib'ral Hand,
 Bid Arts, and Commerce bleſs a ſmiling Land.

XV.

Thrice happy in whoſe humble Cell,
 Immortal Peace, thou deign'ſt to dwell ;
 For not the golden ſhores of Ind'
 Can add one comfort to the mind,
 Should'ſt thou withhold thy gracious pow'r,
 And ceaſe on Man thy influence to ſhow'r.

VI.

Nor can the pride of Victory,
 Nor all her * new-earn'd laurels, dry
 Britannia's ſorrows ; loud the ſound
 Of piercing grief is heard around ;
 Loud ſhe laments thy bleſſings loſt,
 And ſighs her woes o'er all the weeping Coaſt.

XVII.

Then come, fair Peace, and bring with thee
 Thy bleſt attendant Unity ;
 O deign propitiouſly to ſmile
 Upon the Children of this Iſle ;
 Crown them with never-fading Joy,
 And build their tow'ring Honours to the Sky.

* Alluding to *Rodney's* glorious Victory on the 12th. of April 1782.



